

THE LADIES' CORNER.

MEN ARE NOT EXPECTED TO READ THIS COLUMN.

Curious Fact for Physiologists—The Charm of Courtesy—A Few Things Women Find Impossible—About Dances—Women Here and There.

Some Husbands Grow Old Fast.

A CURIOUS fact for the physiologist's investigation is the premature aging of old women's young husbands. The young man who marries a woman twenty years his senior by the time he is well in his forties looks sixty, while the young woman who weds the same disparity of years keeps her youth as long as her temperament and disposition permit. When the Baroness Burdett-Coutts married her very youthful spouse, Mr. Bartlett, she was a well-preserved spinster of sixty-odd. Now the gallant Mr. Burdett-Coutts, as he is called, looks, it is said, fully up to that, while the Baroness, who is close upon eighty, appears as bright and as energetic as in middle life. There is no preservation of health equal to a good heart and an ample fortune, according to the Boston Herald, and the aged wife of the ambitious young American is distinguished for both of these possessions. Old age can be held at bay until the very end, as Ninon de l'Enclos' career bears witness, but the conditions must be favorable, and the years must be well gilt. Poverty never kept any woman young; yet, after all, perhaps there is a good deal of justice in the averaging of time, and this premature aging of men who marry thus for wealth and position is but the double interest fate exacts from its debtors.

The Courtesy of Saleswomen.

A woman who writes for a newspaper in a large Western city, says: "Do merchants realize how greatly the manner of their clerks affect their trade? It was a hot Saturday night during the warm weather we had two or three weeks since, that a lady had occasion to go down town to one of the large dry goods stores. 'Now the clerk will just drag herself up to wait on me this warm night at the end of the week,' was the thought of the lady as herself and friend walked down to the notion counter. But she was agreeably disappointed, for instead of a tired, nervous clerk, a young girl looking as fresh and bright and serene as if it had been 9 o'clock on a cool Monday morning came forward to wait upon the customer. Something was said of the heat, and the ladies suggested the day must be hard. 'Oh, no,' she disclaimed. 'I'm not tired. We haven't been very busy to-day.' She was charming in attending to what the purchasers wanted without being in the least officious, and bade them 'good evening' in the most courteous manner. 'I shall buy all my notions at that store hereafter; I want to meet that girl again,' said one of the ladies as they walked home. 'Was she not charming?' responded the other. 'I never want to go to a disagreeable clerk twice, and I always enjoy buying my things of clerks like that girl, who serve one attentively and politely.'"

The Art of Fascination.

The secret of fascination is one which many a woman would sacrifice a great deal to learn. To cultivate a charming and attractive manner one must begin at home, and surely a bet-

ter school could not be devised, for the training is, in its way, perfection. Here you are sure to find each day little rubs which must be soothed with skillful touch; there is a constant mind friction going on among even the most devoted members of the household.

It is a painful fact, though none the less true, that one's family acts as a constant counter-irritant. Now a steady effort to smooth over the rough places, minister to wounded hearts and with deft touches erase unpleasant memories is called for, and the woman who obeys the summons is pretty sure to find herself fully able to cope in the most agreeable fashion with the outside world. Few women, however, realize that a fascination of manner is not born, but cultivated. It begins to bud in the nursery, develops under the skillful training of painstaking instructors, and blossoms forth into complete beauty in the society of well-bred women.

No Souvenir Spoons in Her Collection.

While women all over the United States are collecting sets of souvenir spoons and taking great pride in the rather meaningless array of curious silver a rich and clever little New England spinster has been slowly accumulating thimbles. Very carefully and quietly has she inherited, purchased, begged, or received as gifts the gold, silver, brass, or steel thimbles used by famous women. Her collection includes some thirty in all; and among them are thimbles of actresses, artists, philanthropists, abolitionists, poets, authors, musicians, and, occasionally, the wives of famous men.—Illustrated American.

A French Woman Who Travels.

One of the few French women who undertake serious voyages, Mme. Elise Saint-Omer, has just left Paris with the intention of going round the world by the Southern Hemisphere. The journey will last three years, and will be spent in collecting materials upon the condition of women and the education of children in different parts of the globe, for the French Society of Geography. Mme. Saint-Omer—though upwards of sixty years—has already been once round the world by herself.

Woman's Work and Aims.

GIRLS over twelve can make valid wills under the laws of Scotland.

A NIECE of James Russell Lowell, Miss Ruth Burnett, is to become a sister of charity.

MRS. MARGARET DELAND has nearly finished her third novel, which will be published shortly.

MRS. HANNAH WHITEALL SMITH writes that 1,000 American girls are now studying art in Paris.

MRS. EDISON is said to prefer the light of ordinary candles to that of the finest incandescent lights.

DENMARK ladies are great lovers of the bicycle, and clubs for riding the wheel are found in many of the larger towns.

WOMEN dentists have proved so popular in London that a scholarship has been founded for assisting women without means in the study of that profession.

THE Queen of, the Sandwich Islands is an earnest patron of temperance reform. She pays the license fee for a coffee house opened in her capital city by the Women's Temperance Union.

ONE of the numerous young newspaper women who are demonstrating to a previously skeptical public that beauty and brains may inhabit the same earthly tenement of clay is Miss Marie Adelaide Billoc.

THREE ladies have taken the degree of Doctor of Laws. They beat the men hollow—in matter of competition. One of them, Madame Bouchault, has been for fifteen years the chief manager of one of the largest millinery shops in Paris.

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